2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

houses. They are clannish and only of recent years have any of them taken *any part in the public life* of the Colony. The exception to this statement is the Bazara family, members of which have in the past and today given their services to the public in the municipal field and in the field of sport.

The third group are in much the same position as the Hadhramis, but being nearer home they pay more frequent visits to the Protectorate, and not having the Hadhramis business astuteness they are to be found more among the employees than the employers. They are of a generous disposition, and now that the educational disadvantage from which they suffered is fast disappearing, they are playing an ever increasing part in the life of the Colony.

The last group, the Yemenis, are a problem and fall clearly into two divisions, the manual workers who spend only a few months in the Colony at any one time and have in no way severed their ties with their homeland and the merchant class who may have become assimilated into the first group or are on the way to and wishful of being so, or who may have come to Aden because they are Sha'afis, or cautious persons and who, while not giving up their Yemen connection and business interests in any way, want to have an alternative source of income and place of residence in the event of trouble in their own land.

This then is the majority community in the Colony, and it is from this community that the political parties have been evolved with some assistance in their early days from individual members of the minority communities, and the Cairo radio in more recent times.

Political parties came into being in Aden in much the same way as they have done in other parts of the world. People of similar views or recreations or occupations met together in the coffee shops and eventually had the idea of forming a Club. The Club became in time the resort of people with, broadly speaking, the same political ideas and so a Party was formed.

Aden has dozens of Clubs, but mercifully very few political Parties. Most of the Clubs are mushroom affairs that suddenly spring up over night all complete with President, Chairman,

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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• 575 a Secretary, a Committee, and a small back room down some side street and up two flights of stairs which serves as the Club premises. The rules and objects are presented to the District Commissioner who is asked to permit the Club to be registered according to the law. The rules are fool-proof, having been copied from those of a Club which has already been registered, and the objects are very high-minded. The Club is said to be cultural in the strict sense of the word and has no other purpose than the raising of the cultural level of the members through social intercourse. Complete stuff and nonsense, of course, but as no-one knows anything against the Management Committee, registration is granted, a few chairs are moved into the back room, a youth is hired to run out for cups of tea from the tea shop on the street corner and the Club has come into being.

As a rule these Clubs continue for just so long as the Honorary Treasurer remains honorary. When he decides that his duties are sufficiently onorous to deserve something more than the cultural uplift he no doubt derives from the Club's social activities and disappears with the funds, the Club ceases to function for all practical purposes. The individual members take as much of the furniture away as they can lay their hands on before the landlord hears the news and seizes it as security for his rent which the Treasurer has failed to pay before he left. The only trace of the Club remaining is a notice-board in Arabic and English which clings to the wall of the house—the scene of the Club's brief life—and the entry in the District Commissioner's Register of Clubs and Societies which records the birth of, say, "The Rabizi Cultural and Social and Charitable Club". The Rabizi's culture was at its peak in 2000 B.C., and has been deteriorating steadily ever since. No-one in their part of the Protectorate would think of going to a party without taking a rifle as well as a dagger, and, if the host lives some way away, without ensuring that a Saiyid is with the party. No-one will harm a Saiyid if they can help it.

As regards the charitable side of the Club's activities, we have already seen that at least one member of the Committee took steps to see that that was not neglected and that the

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

charity was directed into the right channel. There are exceptions, of course, and some Clubs have thrived and developed into very worth-while organisations which are indeed cultural and social. Often they combine their social activities with tennis or football or hockey, and these latter Clubs have done a very great deal of good. The Football Clubs are subject to the control of the Aden Sports Association, a purely unofficial organisation which came into being years ago as the Aden Football Association to control and encourage football in the Colony. It has fulfilled its purpose. Nowadays the existing Clubs of standing are mainly non-political; by which I do not mean that politics are not discussed—they certainly are—but that either the Club did not start as a political meeting place or that its main purpose is no longer political.

There are only three political parties in Aden. There never have been any more and originally there was only one, the Muslim Association. This organisation was inclined to be Pan-Islamic in outlook, which was not surprising because its moving spirit was for a long time an able and successful lawyer from Pakistan. Unfortunately for the Muslim Association the lawyer in question died in London when on his first visit to this country. After his death the Association lost most of its drive and has, from a political angle, become merged in the Aden Association.

The Aden Association is the main political party and is composed of the moderates. It came into being from the political side of the Muslim Association and the more mature of the Arab political leaders. By the middle of 1956 it was a comparatively well organised body whose political platform was, broadly speaking, internal self-government for the Colony. Up till then it had kept an open mind on the question of union between the Colony and the Protectorate. Some of the members would undoubtedly have liked to see some form of union, but I doubt if any of them would have been prepared to commit themselves publicly to a definite policy of union. They preferred to wait and see how the Protectorate developed both politically and economically before making any definite pronouncement. They are only too well aware

000 more conventional range from golf to polo and from tennis to yachting, and from small and quite delightful dinner parties to large and devastating cocktail parties. In fact, you can do practically everything in and around Aden that can be done elsewhere in the world with the exception of winter sports, rugby football and bowls.

526 The great game of the local people is Association Football
• 575 and there are more than twenty Football Clubs registered with the Aden Sports Association, which is a predominantly Asiatic body and which exercises a degree of control over the Clubs much on the lines of the Football Association in this country. The Association controls also the Stadium in Crater where the more important games are held and where Arabs, Indians and Somalis collect in thousands with a few Europeans on Saturday afternoons when important competition games are in progress. The standard of play is very high and nowadays there is not nearly so much rough play as there used to be and players and, or, spectators seldom come to blows on or off the ground. The hooliganism often demonstrated in this country has not
000 yet reached Aden. In this respect it is still a backward and
529 undeveloped country. Personally, although I always took an
563 interest in the game, I never played football and confined my more athletic pursuits to hockey and tennis and I swam at Gold Mohur Bathing Club spasmodically until I discovered it had a colour bar rule, the only Club in Aden to have one, and then I left. I was not sorry to go because the Club had become very crowded and amply demonstrated the unfortunate fact that those who can afford to remove their clothing seldom do and those who should remain covered in the common interest always display as much of their ample acreage as the over-liberal
000 laws permit. My main pursuits were sailing and shooting, and
526 in my earlier days sea fishing. Most unfortunately sailing and
575 shooting are seasonal in Aden and the season is the same for both, so I was forever being torn between the two and what made matters much worse was that the Aden Yacht Club's weekly race was on Sunday morning, and Sunday morning was the only morning in the week that my conscience would
000 allow me to take off to shoot. Generally I shot until Christmas

3:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

Club and Welfare Institutions

There are branches of both the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides Associations in Aden. Of Boy Scouts there were seven troops in 1938, of Girl Guides three and of Brownies three.

Football is the most popular game in Aden both among school boys and young men. League and cup matches are managed by a local Football Association which at the end of 1938 was reconstituted as the Aden Sports Association and now also organizes hockey and cricket competitions.

A branch of the St. John Ambulance Association organizes first-aid classes for school children and adults.

Aden is prolific in clubs of various kinds among almost all sections of the community.

Recreation

Facilities exist for most forms of recreation. The Aden Football Association exercises general control of the numerous football clubs and is endeavouring to raise the general standard of play and to encourage the right spirit. In addition to the military grounds at Steamer Point (Tawahi) there are grounds reserved for the local inhabitants at Tawahi, Crater, Maala and Sheikh Othman. Hockey and cricket are played both at Tawahi and Crater. Apart from the military grounds there is only one hockey ground at Crater. There are tennis clubs in Crater and Tawahi, and one in the military area which is reserved for civil and military Europeans.

Polo and golf and squash rackets are played at Khormaksar, and No. 8 (B) Squadron have a golf course of their own. There is a European bathing club at Gold Mohur Bay, which is open to non-residents on payment of a small charge. At Tawahi there are the Union Club and the Orient Club, the former being a European social institution and the latter a small social club, the members of which are principally Anglo-Indians and Goans. The Arabs have organized two social clubs, one at Crater and the other at Tawahi. They interest themselves in social matters and provide facilities on their premises for games and meetings. Arabic periodicals are taken and occasionally lectures are given.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

Shipping

The number of vessels, exclusive of country craft, which entered the port of Aden during 1938 was 2,079 with an aggregate tonnage of 8,650,411.

The number of country craft entering the port during 1938 was 1,620 with an aggregate tonnage of 75,271.

4:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

658 School. A number of free places are provided for poor and
871 meritorious students. No fees are charged in the Government girls' schools.

Contributions towards Government expenditure on education are made by the Aden Settlement and by the Aden Port Trust; for the financial year 1937-8, in which the expenditure is estimated to be Rs.93,900, these contributions will amount to Rs.50,000 and Rs.15,000 respectively.

Welfare Institutions.

747 There are no welfare institutions in Aden Colony. The Silver Jubilee (Destitute) Fund is administered by the Chairman of the Aden Settlement, and the interest from the investments is used to provide for relief, principally at Sheikh Othman.

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XI.—COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

505 The number of vessels, exclusive of country craft, which entered the port of Aden from the 1st April, 1937, to the 31st March, 1938, was 2,261 with an aggregate tonnage of 8,878,040.

The number of country craft entering the port during 1937 was 1,254 with an aggregate tonnage of 53,891.

504 During recent years Aden has developed rapidly as an oil-bunkering port. This is due mainly to its favourable geographical position, as it is nearer to the Persian oil fields than any other

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

Colony, and in particular to prohibit entry without a permit. Previously there was virtually no power to control immigration into the Colony. 167 671

The Official Secrets Ordinance, which replaces the Indian Official Secrets Act of 1923, and is based on the provisions of the United Kingdom Official Secrets Acts of 1911 and 1920.

The Registration of Clubs Ordinance, which provides for the compulsory registration of "clubs," as widely defined in the Ordinance. It empowers the Registrar, subject to confirmation by the Governor in Council, to refuse registration in any particular instance, and enables the Governor in Council to cancel the registration of a club. 575 671

The Civil Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, which provides for the setting-up of a District Court with power to hear proceedings of a civil nature (with certain exceptions) of a value below Rs. 2,000. For staff reasons, the Court has not yet been formed. 698 671

1950

In 1950 23 Ordinances were enacted of which the following were the more important : 671

The Police (Amendment) Ordinance, which enables the Commissioner of Police, with the approval of the Governor in Council, to appoint special police officers. Previously such officers could only be appointed by a magistrate when a disturbance had actually arisen or was apprehended. This gave little time for organisation or training ; special police may now be organised at any time for use should an emergency arise. The Ordinance also prohibits the wearing of uniforms in connection with political organisations or objects, and further prohibits the formation of quasi-military organisations. 625

The Registration of Persons Ordinance, which provides for the registration of all persons lawfully resident in the Colony at the time registration comes into force, and the issue to them of identity cards. The Ordinance is intended to supplement the new immigration control, under which all persons entering the Colony will be required to have a permit or pass. Registration has not yet been brought into force. 671 641

The Consular Conventions Ordinance, which confers certain powers and privileges upon the Consular Officers of foreign states with which Consular Conventions have been concluded by His Majesty's Government. 671

The Pensions Ordinance, which repeals and replaces the Pensions Ordinance, Cap. 102, and the Pensions (Subordinate Officers) Ordinance, Cap. 103, and is therefore applicable to all pensionable officers of whatever grade. It also incorporates provisions to implement the revised conditions of service in so far as the latter relates to pensions or to gratuities.

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance, which increases the compensation payable in cases of permanent incapacity from 42 to 48 months' earnings. It also places an obligation on an employer to give notice to the Labour and Welfare Officer of any injury which a workman may suffer in the course of his employment. 671 466

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

Further Education

Women. Classes were conducted in purdah conditions for Arab teachers and other Arab female adults in school premises. Women of various races also met weekly at a club run by the Women's Voluntary Services.

Men. The annual vacation course for Government men teachers was held ; of the 250 men present for the fortnight's course, 60 came from the Western Protectorate and some 30 from non-Government schools. The emphasis of the course was on craftwork.

Evening classes were again announced by the Education Department but so poor was the response that none came into being. A course for non-Arabs in Arabic was run successfully.

Libraries

The former British Council library of some 10,000 volumes was taken over by the Education Department and membership rose to 189 of whom 38 were Arabs, 52 Indians, 88 Europeans, nine Somalis and two Jews. Attached to the Library is a reading-room visited by some 350 people monthly. A number of Arab and Indian social clubs have small libraries. The library at the Teachers' Club was increased to about 1,500 volumes.

Activities among Teachers

Apart from the usual vacation course, monthly meetings of teachers were held, the theme being the use of the film in education. The monthly magazine, edited by a panel of teachers, reached its 42nd number ; it is most useful as a vehicle for advice and information. The committee of the Teachers' Club was active in promoting entertainments, talks, film shows, games, competitions and tea-parties for distinguished visitors to the Colony. The textbook committee, consisting of selected teachers from the Government primary and intermediate schools under the chairmanship of the Education Officer, met once a month to discuss the preparation of new textbooks suitable for Aden.

Teachers, particularly in the Government primary schools, concentrated much more on the better teaching of handwork ; much notable work was done in modelling and map-making. In the girls' schools the standard of cookery, needlework, dressmaking and flower-making are high.

Parents' Committee

The attendance at the annual meetings of parents to elect the new committees rose and considerable interest was shown in the reports presented. The committee continued to give most valuable assistance to the officers of the Department and constituted a useful means of communication with parents in general.

The Five-Year Plan

With the occupation of Aden College in April, 1952, (although the buildings were not complete and the grounds not ready) and of the

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

747 workers sponsored by the Welfare Advisory Council. During the week the Governor opened two play centres. The proceeds of the week were £4,875.

In July, 1951, the Aden Society for the Blind was founded. It is affiliated to the British Empire Society for the Blind and over 300 blind people are registered. Apart from the training made available in braille and handicrafts at the Reilly Centre, the Society has also organised a medical survey to ascertain the causes of blindness, and initiated treatment, in a district of the Western Aden Protectorate. The expedition under the direction of Dr. S. E. Croskery, which lasted a month, was sponsored by the British Empire Society for the Blind, which generously contributed £500 towards the expenses. Blind women are also visited in their homes by voluntary workers from the Aden Women's Voluntary Services, and on their recommendation assistance in kind is provided from the funds of the Society for the Blind.

857 At the end of 1952 there were three children's play centres in Aden. Two of these are in Crater and one at Tawahi. Equipment has been provided and a salaried supervisor attends daily from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. to organise games. The first of these centres, opened in 1951, was made possible by a gift of £750 from the Indian community. The others were financed from the proceeds of Children's Week. At least three other centres are planned for the near future.

575 The Association of Boys' Clubs is a small organisation less than three years old, which to date has opened four clubs. There is an immense opportunity for valuable work here, limited at present chiefly by the lack of suitable club leaders.

747 The only relief organisation is the Aden Central Poor Relief Committee, which administers an annual Government grant of £3,750 with a small additional income from investments. Some 800 persons are assisted each year.

738 The probation service for juvenile offenders has proved its value for Aden boys on first offence charges. For homeless Protectorate and Yemeni boys in trouble, a satisfactory method of treatment has yet to be found. In the absence of a full-time probation officer it has not been possible to extend the service to adults. There is no special children's court, no correctional school, nor any Borstal Institution in the Colony. The following are the juvenile probation figures for the two years :

	1951	1952
Number on probation at 1st January . .	10	13
Total new cases during the year . . .	49	47
Number on probation at 31st December .	13	22
Probation completed satisfactorily . .	30	34
Probation orders revoked	5	4

857 The Aden Boy Scouts Association continues to flourish ; there are 10 groups in which a total of 400 boys receive Scout training designed to assist them in becoming good citizens.

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

membership, at present regrettably small, is increasing, and it is to be hoped that when the books are housed in the new library building which is to be situated in the centre of Crater, its greater accessibility will encourage more Arabs to join.

There is no tradition of pictorial art in South-West Arabia and practically no native handicrafts, therefore it is unusually difficult for the local Arab to produce anything original or characteristic, and his attempts at self-expression are all influenced by foreign art and have none of the freshness of primitive or aboriginal painting. He is indeed a late-comer to all the finer arts and consequently lacks taste and spontaneity. Nevertheless, the urge for self-expression is there, and the Aden Arts Club came into being specifically with the idea of encouraging people of all races interested in painting to meet together. In this it has been only partially successful as once again the European element tends to submerge the Arab.

In the last three years the Arts Club has sponsored three exhibitions of painting (two of which included handicrafts) and these exhibitions have certainly caused a quickening of interest even if they have produced no more tangible result. Though the show of talent is unimpressive, it is too early to demand standards and the aim is to arouse interest and stimulate endeavour. The same purpose is being pursued amongst the women, and here the standard of handicrafts, as produced by the Aden Protectorate Levies Wives' Club, has shown marked improvement—possibly because they are quick to grasp that good work can command a good market. Such incentive is excellent, and it is a pity that it is inapplicable to the less functional arts.